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THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED NEWSPAPER IN THE ISLE OF THANET

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A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR FRIENDS AWAY
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Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
DANCING
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Frederic Hargraves and His Orchestra
ADMISSION 1/-

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF CANTERBURY AND COUNTY OF KENT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CANTERBURY JUNIOR COMMERCIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

AN examination for the Award of Special Places for admission to the above-named School in April, 1942, will be held at the Technical Institute, Longport-Street, Canterbury, on Saturday, 17th January, at 9 a.m.

Candidates for Special Places must be British Subjects and their parents must be bona fide residents in the respective area of Canterbury County Borough or the County of Kent. Admission to the examination is open to girls born between 1st October, 1927, and 31st March, 1928. Where possible, arrangements will be made for candidates who have been evacuated to take the examination in the places in which they are now living.

Forms of application may be obtained from the Principal, Technical Institute, Longport-street, Canterbury, and must be returned not later than Friday, 9th January, 1942.

R. H. STEVENS,
Director of Education.
12 St. George's-place, Canterbury.

ON SAME SHIP

YOUNG MARGATE SEAMEN LOST

Serving on the same ship, Able Seamen Horace James Doughty and Leslie Herbert Manning, of Margate, are officially reported to have lost their lives as the result of enemy action while serving with the Merchant Navy.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Doughty, of 40 Victoria-road, A/B Doughty, who was 23 years of age, was employed as a fisherman when he left New Cross-street School.

A/B Manning, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. W. H. Manning, of The Glen, Danesmead-terrace, was only 19 years of age. For a short time he was employed as a milk roundsman after leaving Dane School.

Both joined the Merchant Navy three year ago.

Two brothers of A/B Manning are serving with the Royal Navy.

GIRL GOES

AND HUSBAND AND WIFE GO TOO

At Ramsgate police court last week Marjorie Powell, aged 22, factory hand, of Cudmore-end, Cannock, Staffordshire, who was summoned for entering a defence area for the purposes of pleasure, contrary to the Defence Regulations, was ordered by the magistrates to leave the area within a week.

She has left—and with her have gone Mr. and Mrs. Miles, of Royal-road, and their three children.

When the case first came before the magistrates it was stated that the young woman and Miles slept in the flat on the first floor and the wife, who is partially paralysed, and two of her children on the ground floor. Miss Powell was expecting a child by Miles. It was alleged that Miles used their 18-months-old baby as a bribe to his wife to secure her consent to defendan coming to live with him in Ramsgate.

When the case was called on Monday the Chief Constable (Mr. S. F. Butler) said that two days previously Mrs. Miles came and asked him if the young woman could remain for a further week. He told her she could not in view of the order of the magistrates.

Mr. B. K. Homsley, Probation Officer, said defendant had returned to Staffordshire. Mr. and Mrs. Miles and the children had also gone with her.

The Chairman (Mr. H. J. Perry) said the case would be adjourned sine die.

The Clerk (Mr. F. A. Knight): If she comes back you can again bring the matter before the court.

The Chief Constable: Yes. We can then deal with it rather more quickly. If there is any encouragement given her in aiding and abetting I hope to bring that individual before the court also. There is someone else behind this and I should like to see him before this court.

Telephone your Advertisements to Ramsgate 1012.

BROADSTAIRS HOUSES ENTERED

YOUNG SOLDIERS' ADMISSIONS

Two young soldiers were committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, London, when they appeared before the Cinque Ports magistrates at Margate on Monday, accused of breaking and entering two houses at Broadstairs.

The defendants, Pte. Ernest Albert Payne, aged 18, and Pte. Ronald Desmond Knight, aged 17, were charged under the Larceny Act with stealing a quantity of apples, value 9d., the property of Countess Ida Mary De-Lancovich, from The Lodge, Dumpton Park-drive, Broadstairs, and under the Defence Regulations with entering the premises, which had been left unprotected in an area subject to enemy attack from the air on 6th November.

There were two similar charges in respect of Hill Rise, Crow-hill, Broadstairs, where it was alleged they stole 3s. 5d. in money, three brooches, a silver-coloured chain, two strings of imitation pearls, a chromium-plated chain, and a diamante clip, together valued at £1 8s. 5d., the property of Ernest Lampard.

Mr. Eric Neale, county prosecuting solicitor, pointed out that although in the case of The Lodge only ninepennyworth of apples was alleged to have been stolen, the serious crime of looting was involved.

Stating that he would ask for the men to be committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, Mr. Weale added that they had been in custody since 6th November, and the Army authorities were not prepared to hold them pending trial.

Amos Hughes, of Belmont-road, Broadstairs, caretaker of The Lodge, which was furnished but unoccupied, said that when he left the premises at 10.30 p.m. on 5th November the windows were boarded up and the doors were locked. Two days later he was called to the house and found some apples missing from the kitchen.

Mrs. Annie Stillman, of Crow-hill, Broadstairs, who said she and her husband looked after Hill Rise during the absence of Mr. Lampard, stated that she went into the garden on 5th November and noticed nothing unusual about the house.

Ernest Lampard, of Field-road, Stroud, Gloucestershire, the owner of Hill Rise, said he left the premises owing to war conditions in May, 1940. At the request of the police he visited the place on 6th November and later shown a number of articles which he identified as his property.

Left House Eating Apples.

P/C Turner, K.C.C., stationed at Broadstairs, stated that at 2.30 p.m. on 6th November he saw the accused leaving The Lodge, Dumpton Park-drive, each carrying apples. When he spoke to them they both said they were out looking for apples. He asked them to accompany him to the rear of the premises, where he found a pane of glass had been broken near the catch of a ground floor window. The back door was open. When he pointed this out to the men Payne said "The place was open when we got there." Witness took them to the wardens' post in West Cliff-road and then to the police station, where they made statements.

Knight, in his statement, said "We were out looking for apples. We went round the rear of the house. The door was shut so I tried it and found it open. I then rang the bell but as I got no reply I entered the house. Inside the door on a table I saw a lot of apples. I took one. I went further into the house and found that the place had been ransacked. On leaving we were met outside by a policeman."

Payne made a similar statement, saying that if anyone answered the door he intended to ask for some water. He said he took two apples.

D/C Sgt. K.C.C., stationed at Broadstairs, who examined The Lodge, said he found clean cut marks in the putty round the window at the back which had been broken. They indicated that an attempt had been made to remove the pane of glass. There was no bell on the back door. Returning to the police station he searched Knight and found a razor in his possession. Adhering to the blade were some minute particles of a yellowish substance. He pointed this out to Knight, who said "I was carrying the razor and cut the putty round the window to get the pane of frame out. I could not open it that way so I kicked it and broke it. I then lifted up the latch and we went in."

Rooms Ransacked.

On 7th November witness went with P/C Holl to Hill Rise, which had been forcibly entered. The french windows of the lounge at the rear were open and there were marks on the top of the frame indicating that they had been levered open with a flat instrument about an inch wide. Inside the lounge he found a piece of metal bearing traces of a white substance. The doors of the french windows were painted white. Many of the rooms in the house had been ransacked, and all the interior was in a state of disorder. Paper had been burnt in the fireplace of the lounge.

On 20th November Knight and Payne, who had been released on bail, surrendered and were charged with looting at The Lodge. Payne said "We went round the back of the house and looked in. We decided to

Continued at foot of next column.

MOTHERS IN CUSTODY

ALLEGED LOOTING AT WESTGATE

Two women, both mothers, were charged at Margate police court on Friday with looting.

The accused, Ruby Walters, alias Barden, aged 27, and Florence Slingo, aged 43, both living at Westbury-road, Westgate, were charged with entering Far Bay, Westleigh-road, Westgate, situated in an area subject to enemy attack and left unprotected as the result of war operations.

It was alleged that they stole six dishes, 41 spoons, 21 knives, a canteen of cutlery, two boxes of cards, two writing pads, three glass bowls, a set of fruit dishes, 17 forks, seven plates, a basin, teapot, glass jug, carborundum, teacosy, canvas mat, 11 blankets, five rugs, wicker chair, pomade pot, two pairs of children's shoes and one writing compact.

The Chief Constable (Mr. W. Palmer), who said he proposed to offer only evidence of arrest before asking for a remand, declared that practically the whole of the contents of the house of one of the women consisted of stolen property.

Heavily Laden Perambulator.

W/R/C Norman stated that when he was in Elm-grove, Westgate, at 3.20 p.m. the previous day he saw a little boy carrying a wicker chair. The two women were behind him and Walters was pushing a heavily-laden perambulator. When he spoke to the boy Walters came up and said "That's mine. I bought it at a sale at a bungalow behind the A.F.S. station at Birchington." Witness asked her what she had in the perambulator and she replied "A few old blankets and mats." Asked if she bought those at the sale she said "Yes."

Not satisfied with her answers, witness told the women they would have to accompany him to the police box for further inquiries. Walters then asked if she could take the stuff back, but witness told her she could not, and asked her where it came from. She replied "I got it from a house round the corner." The accused were later taken to the police station, together with three small children, the wicker chair and the contents of the perambulator.

Further witness went to Walters' home at Westbury-road with Inspr. Croucher and other officers and recovered a quantity of china, cutlery and plate, which was taken to the police station. He afterwards visited Far Bay, Westleigh-road, and found that a ground floor window had been broken. The drawers of a writing desk were open, a stool was on its side, and a coal bin was placed in such a position that it could be used for stepping in and out of the window.

Inspr. Croucher stated that when charged at the police station Walters replied "I don't want to say anything," and Slingo made a similar reply.

Parted From Children.

The Chief Constable said he would have to ask that the accused should be kept in custody during the remand. Walters had two children, aged three and five, and Slingo had a child of three. The children could not go to prison with the women and as there was no hostel in the district they would have to be handed over to the Public Assistance authorities.

"It is necessary, owing to the gravity of the charge, that they should be kept in custody for the present," said the Chief Constable. "Practically the whole of the home of Walters is stolen property."

Walters: It's im't.

The Chief Constable mentioned that Walters' husband was serving abroad.

The accused were remanded in custody until Tuesday next.

Continued from previous column.

go in, smashed the window and took some apples. I am very sorry and I hope I shall be dealt with leniently." Knight replied "I can only say what I told you before, and that is the truth."

After appearing before the court the next day Payne was told that inquiries were being made in regard to other offences as a result of certain property being found in his kit. He then made a statement relating to another alleged offence which would be taken into consideration later.

Continuing, witness said Knight also made a statement in which he referred to about 20 thefts he committed at Brighton two and a half years ago. He admitted that when he broke out of the guard-room one night with Payne he stole a bicycle at Ramsgate and sold it for 10s.

Payne, when shown the statement, admitted he was with Knight when the latter stole a bicycle at Ramsgate and said he himself stole one at Canterbury.

Witness afterwards went with P/C Holl to The Lodge and in the vegetable dish in the kitchen found two strings of imitation pearls, a chromium plated chain and a diamante clip. They also went to the wardens' post in West Cliff-road and found three brooches and a silver-coloured chain.

The accused, who had nothing to say, were committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, which opens on 7th January.

APARTMENTS WANTED

WANTED in Ramsgate, 2 Lodgings for good-class working man on essential work.—Reply, Welfare Officer, M. & E. Equipment Co., 15 Upper Grosvenor-street, London, W.1. 180

Mortuary Black-Out Fatality

FIRM'S TRIBUTE AT INQUEST

A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned by the Ramsgate Coroner (Mr. J. H. Rosen) at the inquest on Saturday on Mr. George Watson Thompson, aged 57, of Poplar House, Carlton-avenue, Ramsgate, who died in the Haywards Heath Emergency Hospital following injuries received as a result of a fall at the Ramsgate Civil Defence Mortuary.

On 21st November Mr. Thompson, who was employed by Messrs. Grummant Bros., was engaged on blacking-out the roof of the mortuary. He apparently slipped, crashed through the asbestos roof, and fell 17ft. to the concrete floor below.

Mr. Thompson sustained severe injuries, including the dislocation of two bones in the neck, and after being treated at Ramsgate Hospital was removed to Haywards Heath for specialist treatment. He at first made good progress but died on Wednesday.

The widow, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Thompson, said that at lunch-time on 21st November her husband left for work as usual. When she saw him in hospital he told her he had been engaged on a rush job at the mortuary. She saw him in both Ramsgate Hospital and the hospital at Haywards Heath to which he was removed. He was delirious most of the time and did not tell her anything about the accident.

A Deep Scratch.

Mr. Alfred Charles Winnicott, of Wallsend-road, Ramsgate, carpenter and joiner, employed by Grummant Bros., said on Friday, 21st November, he was engaged on work at the mortuary together with Thompson. Part of the work was to black-out the windows in the roof. It was a span roof with one side abutting on to an adjoining building. Linking the two was a lead gutter. Thompson was assisting with the black-out and went up on the roof to look at the best way to do the job. Witness heard someone shout out "Someone has fallen through." He also heard the breaking of the asbestos. Going inside the building at once he saw Thompson lying on the floor, face downwards. He was conscious and was bleeding from the top of the head. He said he felt as though he was dying. An ambulance arrived soon afterwards and Thompson was removed to hospital.

Witness said he later inspected the roof of the building. On the asbestos near the gutter he found a deep scratch as though someone had put their foot on it and slipped. He thought Thompson must have put his foot on the roof, slipped, and crashed through. The roof and gutter were damp and greasy. Thompson fell about 17ft. on to the concrete floor.

Partially Paralysed.

Dr. W. J. Dunlop said when Thompson was admitted to hospital his neck and right leg were paralysed. He found that there was a dislocation of two bones in the neck and also a fracture of the right femur. Thompson was partially paralysed from the waist downwards, due to the neck injury, and his arms were partially paralysed. Owing to the back injury he was transferred to the hospital at Haywards Heath, which specialised in head and spinal injuries.

Dr. Ernest Brodie Cobbett Hughes, attached to the Haywards Heath Hospital, said the following admission Thompson made good progress. He became acutely ill on 10th December and died the same day. Death was caused by a blood clot in the pulmonary artery on the right side.

After returning his verdict the Coroner expressed sympathy with the widow and relatives. He knew Mr. Thompson personally and he was a man to be respected and a useful member of the community.

Mr. Stanley Austin, on behalf of the principals and employees of Grummant Bros., also expressed sympathy with the widow. Mr. Thompson had established with them a very high regard both as to his gentle character and his craftsmanship.

The Funeral.

The funeral took place at Ramsgate Cemetery on Monday, the service being conducted by the Rev. J. Rooney.

The mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Thompson (brother and sister-in-law), Mr. Jack Thompson (brother), Mrs. Moore (niece), Mr. and Mrs. J. J. R. Barry (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), and Mrs. Scott.

Floral tributes were received from the widow, Messrs. Fred and Jack Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Grummant Bros., Mr. and Mrs. J. J. R. Barry, Mr. and Mrs. E. Barry, Mrs. Betts, Mrs. Scott, Mr. Cantwell, and Poplar House.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. H. Maskell, of Hardres-street, Ramsgate.

AID TO RUSSIA FLAG DAY

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Saturday, 20th December

Collectors Urgently Required

Rally to the aid of those who are fighting for us

Boxes will be supplied on FRIDAY, December 19th.

Apply, The Mayor, Clarendon House, Ramsgate

SOLDIER KILLED BY LORRY

BLACK-OUT ROAD TRAGEDY

A soldier walking on the Canterbury-road, Ramsgate, on Friday night, was knocked down by an Army lorry which failed to stop.

The soldier, Sergt. Frank Jones, aged 48, sustained severe injuries and died a few hours later in Ramsgate General Hospital.

The accident occurred on the Canterbury side of the Lord of the Manor bridge. Jones, who was walking in the road with another soldier, was thrown into the adjoining field by the force of the impact.

The police are still endeavouring to trace the driver of the lorry.

Sergt. Jones' wife, Corpl. A. Jones, is serving with the W.A.A.F.

A HERO OF CRETE

MEDAL FOR RAMSGATE MAN

Son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hooker, of 1 West Cliff-road, Ramsgate, Sergt. Edward Hooker, R.A., has been awarded the Military Medal for his gallantry in the Crete campaign.

A married man with one child, Sergt. Hooker, aged 33 years, was a carpenter employed by Messrs. Grummant Bros. before the war. A member of the Territorial Army for many years he was mobilised on the outbreak of war and was drafted abroad with the Middle East Force.

Although severely wounded in the Battle of Crete, Sergt. Hooker was safely evacuated but was afterwards in hospital for several weeks.

His father was employed by Messrs. Tomson and Wotton Ltd. for over 40 years.

CHRISTMAS DRINKS

HOUR'S EXTENSION AT RAMSGATE

An extension of the permitted hours from 10 p.m. until 11 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Boxing Night and New Year's Eve was granted by the justices at Ramsgate police court on Monday.

Mr. A. R. Young made application for the extensions on behalf of 47 licensees and individual application was made on behalf of a number of clubs.

Some of the clubs asked for different extensions and on different nights but the magistrates adopted the suggestion of the Chief Constable (Mr. S. F. Butler) that they should all be brought into line with an hour's extension on the same nights.

At Broadstairs Too.

Similar extensions were granted 14 licensees in Broadstairs and St. Peter's at the Cinque Ports police court, Margate, on Monday.

BANK ROMANCE

POPULAR THANET SPORTSMAN WEDS

A romance which began in a bank culminated in the wedding at Holy Trinity Church, Ramsgate, this morning, of L/Sergt. Ronald Edward Augustus Shallcross, R.A.C., son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Shallcross, of 24 Connaught-road, Margate, to Miss Peggy Turner, daughter of Mrs. E. St. G. Turner, of 89 High-street, Broadstairs, and the late Paymaster/Commdr. C. F. Turner.

Both bride and bridegroom are members of the staff of Lloyds Bank Ltd. and served together at the Ramsgate branch before the bridegroom was transferred to Buckland, Dover.

At the outbreak of war L/Sergt. Shallcross volunteered for service and in the early days was drafted to France. He was on the ill-fated Lancastria which was sunk during the evacuation and was rescued after being in the water for two hours.

Before the war L/Sergt. Shallcross was a prominent Thanet sportsman. He took both cricket and football for Thanet Banks, turned out frequently for Ramsgate Granville Football Club, was a member of Clifton-ville Hockey Club and also of Margate Yacht Club.

The ceremony at Holy Trinity Church was conducted by the Rev. E. D. d'E. Meredith, the bridegroom's father presiding at the organ.

Given away by her brother, Mr. John Turner, the bride wore a powder blue marocain frock and black hat and accessories, and carried a bouquet of roses and carnations. She was attended as bridesmaid by Miss Mary Brunton, and Mr. S. H. Winter acted as best man.

The honeymoon is being spent in London, after which L/Sergt. Shallcross will return to his unit and the bride will return to her duties at Lloyds Bank, Ramsgate.

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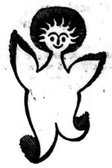

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ACTIVE Person (either sex) required by old established office, to collect small annual subscriptions, etc., good pay; part-time applicants considered.—Write, Box L.I.S. Ltd., Bath House, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.1. 80

BOY wanted immediately. — Skitts Pharmacies Ltd., 104 High-street, Ramsgate. †75

SITUATIONS available in greyhound racing kennels (London tracks); wages £2 per week; living accommodation found; holidays with pay; Youths 16-18 years, experienced in hound or stable work, preferred.—Write, Box 150, c/o Pool's Advertising Service, Brettenham House, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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CREOSOTE or Tar, 40 gallons 46/8 delivered; free barrels; Land Pipes all sizes.—Frank Coopers, Builders' Merchants, Canterbury. 72

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SAVE Coupons and Money this Xmas.—Suits, Coats, Costumes, Dresses, etc., Dyed (approximately 10-day service), Dry-Cleaned (7-day service).—Send now to The Coastal Dyeing and Cleaning Co., 100a High-street, Ramsgate.

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MOTOR Insurance.—Lloyds Policy 40 per cent. no claim bonus; immediate cover.—Adams, 36 Stanley-road, Broadstairs. 77

If it's Advertising ring Ramsgate 1912.

CHRISTMAS POST

YOU ARE EXHORTED TO BE EARLY

The posting of Christmas packets and parcels should be completed this week by Thursday and of letters and cards by Saturday.

Even in peace-time, when adequate reserves of labour, accommodation and transport are available, the G.P.O. has its work cut out dispose of the Christmas traffic in time.

This year the task will be more difficult than ever because the Post Office has lost more of its trained staff for service with the forces, and the reserves of labour, transport and accommodation, which would normally be available, have been largely absorbed in furtherance of the national war effort.

In addition to posting early, readers are asked to withhold from the post from 15th to 26th December anything which can be kept back until afterwards.

It will also materially assist the Post Office if readers will again bear in mind two important points. The first is to post their letters and parcels as soon as they are ready for despatch without waiting for them to accumulate. The second is to post during the hours of daylight and before noon if possible. These measures will even out the flow of traffic, will enable much of the preliminary work to be done during daylight, and will relieve the collections from letter boxes during the hours of black-out.

There will be no postal deliveries in Eire on 25th and 26th December. As was the case last year, censorship is another reason why correspondence for Eire must be posted in ample time to secure delivery by Christmas.

Local Letters.

Correspondence for local delivery in the Isle of Thanet may be posted somewhat later than suggested above, but not later than 23rd December.

On Christmas Day there will be one delivery of letters and parcels. No despatches will be made. Counter business will be transacted at Ramsgate head office and Broadstairs branch office only from 9 to 10.30 a.m. All sub offices will be closed.

On Boxing Day there will be one delivery. Collections will be made from the head and all town posting boxes in Ramsgate and Broadstairs at the usual Bank Holiday times, and there will be a general night mail despatch. The public counters at Ramsgate head and Broadstairs branch offices will be open as on an ordinary weekday.

Greetings telegrams for delivery on Christmas Day may be handed in from now onwards until 23rd December.

NEGLECTFUL PARENTS

EVACUATED CHILDREN'S PLIGHT

Criticism of Margate parents of evacuated children who had "failed to respond to their responsibilities" was made at a meeting of Cannock Urban Council.

It was stated that about 50 per cent. of the evacuees in Cannock, where a number of Margate children are billeted, have only one pair of shoes and consequently are unable to attend school when they are being repaired.

Councillor A. Hampton said they were receiving complaints about parents not sending sufficient clothes and boots to keep their children up to the required standard. The committee thought it was placing a great responsibility and unfair burden on the foster parents when parents in evacuated areas did not respond to their responsibilities.

It has been decided to establish a fund for the general welfare of evacuated children and it is suggested that an application might be made to the evacuation authorities concerned for the provision of a sum of money.

HOUSES, FLATS, ETC. TO LET

TO Let—58 Albion-road, St. Peter's; five rooms, kitchen, 16/- inclusive. —Cockett, Henderson, Auctioneers, Broadstairs †79

WAR-TIME REVIVAL

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACTIVITIES

At a well attended meeting held at the Employment Exchange, Chapel-place, on Tuesday, the rules of Ramsgate Chamber of Commerce and Advancement Association were revised to meet war-time conditions.

It was decided that for the duration of hostilities membership should be by election by the Standing Committee or at a general meeting and that the subscription for 1942 should be 5s. Trade associations affiliating on payment of £1 1s. will be entitled to send a representative with power to vote at meetings of the Standing Committee

The officers elected for the coming year were: Chairman, Councillor A. R. Young; vice-chairman, Mr. G. Kiy; hon. secretary, Mr. H. L. Summers; hon. treasurer, Mr. W. K. R. Liddell. To the Standing Committee, in addition to the foregoing, were elected Aldermen J. J. White and T. W. Mockridge, Councillor S. E. Austin, Messrs. F. L. Drayson, H. C. Flowerdew, E. R. Dunn, W. Mayes, W. J. Stone, S. W. Smith and P. F. Weeks, with Messrs. J. Morgan and F. H. Treweeks representing the Rotary Club. Messrs. J. M. West and S. A. Ovenden were asked to act as auditors.

Mr. Summers, who had been acting as hon. secretary during the absence of Mrs. Hicks, reported that meetings of the Standing Committee had been held at the offices of the acting chairman, Councillor Young, since enemy action had rendered it impossible to hold meetings at the Chamber's offices.

Reporting on recent activities of the Chamber, Mr. Summers said 120 shops in the town had been registered in connection with the traders' emergency salvage scheme, which was being carried out in conjunction with the Town Council and police.

The financial report submitted by Mr. Liddell showed a balance in hand of £23 18s. 9d.

At the close of the business Mr. W. W. Wetherill appealed to the members to assist the Council of Social Service scheme for the salvage of waste paper and undertook at the next quarterly meeting to open a discussion regarding the formation of a town's committee to decide upon a policy of post-war reconstruction.

BRIGHT AND BREEZY

LADY BE GOOD AT KING'S

Entertainment of a bright and breezy variety is being presented at the King's Theatre, Ramsgate, this week.

Heading the bill to-day and to-morrow is "Lady Be Good," which is full of music, fun and dancing. In addition to a fine story and haunting tunes, the film presents the most unusual series of dance routines ever staged, with Eleanor Powell surpassing anything she has ever done on the screen. The story concerns a song-writing team, man and wife, who seek divorce when success goes to the husband's head. How they are brought together again through the plans of their friends, a dancer, played by Miss Powell, and a crooner, John Carroll, gives suspense to the story. Ann Sothern, Robert Young and Lionel Barrymore are also in the cast. There is a full supporting programme.

The Bumstead family return to the screen in "Conga Swing," the chief feature for the second half of the week. Penny Singleton is again to be seen as the efficient, energetic Blondie; Arthur Lake is the blundering, bewildered Dagwood, and Larry Simms continues as the adorable, albeit slightly careworn, Baby Dumpling, who has long ago discovered that bringing up parents is quite a problem for their children. "Conga Swing" takes the family on a South American cruise, when they go musical with a vengeance. The programme will also include "The Devil Commands," another Boris Karloff thriller.

MARGATE SEAMAN SAVED

Seaman Albert Raymond Dadd, R.N., of Birds-avenue, Garlinge, is a patient in the Royal Naval Hospital, Chatham.

Twenty-nine years of age, Seaman Dadd was a labourer until joining the Navy two years ago. He has been engaged on hazardous work on mine-sweepers and was among the rescued members of the crew of one which was sunk.

THUMBS UP

RAMSGATE MEN IN THE DESERT

From Pte. H. Cullen, of Ramsgate, comes news of local men serving in the Middle East.

In a letter home he writes:

Serving with the regiment out here are: A/C/S/M G. Chapman, Corpl. F. Walker, J. Sandum, F. Rogers, F. Todd, C. Baverstock, E. Garwood, B. Wanford, F. East, R. Colman, A. Conrad, G. Gower, B. Fordham, V. Swain and G. Goldfinch. Corpl. Walker is the son of Len. Walker (popular centre-half and captain of the Ramsgate Grenville F.C.).

That reminds me, talking of footballers, I have met Bert Newberry, once a member of the Schools Football XI. He is now a lance-corporal, and looks fitter than ever. I also bumped into Sammy Clark, whose romantic sea wedding some years ago made front page news. Before the war he was employed by Eddie Butcher, and has played for the Press Wanderers F.C.

Since leaving England I have been half-way round the world, and visited South Africa, Palestine and Egypt. At the time of writing, I am on the desert. It is surprising, but even here the weather is the same as at home, hot in the daytime but cold and damp in the evenings. There are plenty of flies about, and I have also seen black beetles, centipedes, scorpions, skunks, snakes and hundreds of small ants which I do not know the name of. Honestly, the East is not what it is painted to be.

We have been getting our mail fairly regularly, which is one consolation for the scarceness of newspapers, although we can always visit our canteen and hear the news on the wireless. Beer is also obtainable. Leave parties are going each week and the boys report having a good time with "Everything nice."

In conclusion we would all like to say how proud we are of the folks at home for the way they have endured the terrible air raids. Also we must thank our Mayor (Alderman A. B. C. Kempe), who, like the good skipper he is, has safely steered his ship into port after a very stormy passage. So for us all in the Middle East to our townspeople at home, we will say "Cheerio and thumbs up."

A Memorable Visit.

In an earlier letter Pte. Cullen described two days spent at Cape Town, South Africa.

"When we anchored in Table Bay I saw just what I expected to see," he wrote. "It was just like a coloured picture postcard. After we had been inspected by Major Roosevelt (cousin of the President of the U.S.A.) we marched off into the town, where our officer dismissed us. I had hardly gone a few steps before I was picked up by a man in a car, who invited me to a sight-seeing tour, to which I readily agreed. . . . We drove from here through the busy streets to the Claremont Club, belonging to Sir William Bird, the racecourse owner and South African snooker champion."

Pte. Cullen described how, on the second day, he and a colleague were befriended by two ladies in a car who acted as their hosts for the day. "To me all this seemed a dream," he wrote. "To hear the birds singing and to see people walking about as though nothing was wrong. You would not have thought there was a war on, while in front of me I had a paper which said that Ramsgate had been bombed. . . . The car headed for Simonstown, and after a quick look round we drove to Muizberg, which is a great watering spa for visitors. A famous feature here is the surf-riding. As we drove along the front we saw the small cottage where Cecil Rhodes died. I also saw the home of the late Sir Abe Bailey, who will always be remembered in England for his great spirit and sportsmanship, although an invalid."

Pte. Cullen concluded "The memory of my first visit to South Africa, and the kindness shown to us, will always remain."

I THANK YOU

THE LIGHTER SIDE AT ODEON

The lighter side of life is to be seen in the programmes being presented at the Odeon Cinema, Ramsgate, this week.

The old firm of Arthur Askey and Richard (Stinker) Murdoch, break all records in "I Thank You," chief feature to-day (Tuesday) and Wednesday. The picture has a novel finale, in that a big theatrical try-out is staged in an Underground tube shelter. Noel Gay, the popular and prolific song-writer, has three brand new numbers in the film, one of them being "Let's get hold of Hitler." Moore Marriott and Graham Moffatt add to the fun and there is an amusing incident where Marriott lies on a roof-top, firing at barrage balloons, under the mistaken idea that they are German Zeppelins. There is melody and mirth in the supporting feature, "Where Did You Get That Girl," starring Leon Errol and Helen Parrish.

There are two star films for the second half of the week. The first is "Tall, Dark and Handsome," with suave Cesar Romero and lovely Virginia Gilmore. Things start happening rapidly when dapper, big-shot gangster Romero is attracted to Virginia Gilmore, a department store nursemaid. Posing as a "father," he persuades her to take a job as nursemaid in his palatial home. The stage is then set for a gay gangland comedy. The second feature is "A Very Young Lady," in which Jane Withers has her first grown-up role. Jane falls in love not once, but twice. She develops a crush on John Sutton, and then falls in love with a cadet from a military academy. The sympathetic advice of Nancy Kelly smoothes out the situation.

AID FOR RUSSIA

MAYOR ORGANISES RAMSGATE FLAG DAY

The Mayor of Ramsgate (Alderman A. B. C. Kempe) is organising a flag day to be held in the town on Saturday on behalf of the British Red Cross Aid for Russia Fund.

"It seems to me," writes the Mayor, "that in the present state of the war we should put forward an exceptional effort to give help to our gallant Russian allies.

"I hope that Ramsgate's contribution will be in keeping with our war record, and that notwithstanding the hardships and distress which our town has had to suffer, we shall be able to show by a magnificent response on 20th December that we are wholehearted in our determination to give everything we possibly can to the cause for which we are fighting."

The Mayor asks that men and women willing to act as collectors should send their names and addresses to him at Clarendon House as quickly as possible. Their help is urgently needed.

GAS TRAGEDY

DAUGHTER'S DISCOVERY

Returning to her home at 3 Chilton-villas, Pegwell-road, Ramsgate, on Tuesday afternoon, Miss Betty Boyes noticed a strong smell of gas.

She called a neighbour and together they searched the house.

Going upstairs, Miss Boyes found her father, Mr. Walter Boyes, aged 52, lying on the bed, covered by bedclothes. A gas pipe attached to the wall had been pulled down under the clothes.

Dr. A. N. Gordon was called and found Mr. Boyes dead.

Mr. Boyes was employed as a building contractor's agent at Manston.

At the inquest conducted by the Borough Coroner (Mr. J. H. Robinson), on Thursday, Frederick Arthur Merrall, of Winstanley-crescent, lorry driver, said he had for some time driven Mr. Boyes backwards and forwards from work. On Tuesday he asked witness to pick him up at 11.30 a.m. He said he was going back to bed as he had a cold. He said he felt as though his head was bursting. When witness left him at his house he said "Cheerio, I will see you in the morning if I feel like getting up." He showed witness a whisky bottle he had in his pocket.

A Very Hard-Working Man.

Miss Boyes said she had been working as a clerk with her father at Manston. Her father was a very hard-working man. He began work at 8 a.m. each day and usually worked until nine o'clock at night. His home life had always been very happy. When invasion threatened her father once said that if the Germans came he would go into the dug-out with a bottle of whisky and cut his throat. She did not think he meant it. Her father served throughout the last war, was wounded in the head and had suffered since with his heart and also from gout.

Witness said on Monday her father arranged for her mother to go to Canterbury the following day. When they went to Manston on Tuesday her father said he would probably go back as he was not feeling well. He left the office shortly before 12 o'clock.

On returning home later in the day witness smelt gas and sought the assistance of a neighbour. They found him lying on the bed.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said about a month previously her father lost his best friend and that upset him greatly. He worked all the time except when he was in bed. They tried to stop him working so hard but he would take no notice.

Mrs. Maud Claw, the neighbour called by Miss Boyes, said the smell of gas was particularly strong upstairs. As soon as she saw a gas pipe leading under the bedclothes she went for Mr. Mockett. She had known Mr. Boyes for over 20 years and he had always been a cheerful, hard-working man.

Mr. Thomas Reginald Mockett, licensee of the Chilton Tavern, said when he arrived at the house he found Mr. Boyes lying on the bed with his head covered by clothes. The gas pipe had been pulled away from the wall and down on to the bed. Mr. Boyes appeared to be dead so witness telephoned for a doctor and the police.

Dr. Gordon said when he arrived at the house at about 6.30 p.m. artificial respiration was being applied. Mr. Boyes had then been dead for some hours.

Provision for Funeral.

D/C Reid, Coroner's Officer, who went to the house in response to the telephone call, described the efforts made to revive Mr. Boyes. The bed had been pulled diagonally across the room. The gas pipe had been cut near the burner and pulled towards the bed. He also found some tools in the room. On a table in the dining-room he found some slips of paper bearing some words. He could not make any sense of the messages. On the table also was an empty whisky bottle. Later he was handed an envelope found on deceased's clothing which contained £10 and the words "For funeral. No flowers."

Summing up, the Coroner said in his opinion the combined effects of the war and overwork caused the balance of Mr. Boyes' mind to be upset and he took his own life. He could read only a word here and there in the notes left by the deceased but they contained no coherent message. The message on the envelope made it obvious that he intended to take his life. It was extraordinarily sad that a man who had been such a useful member of the community and who had been so hard-working should lose his life in this way. Such a man was entitled to the respect and admiration of everyone and he wished to express his deeepst sympathy to the widow and family.

FUNERAL TRIBUTES

The funeral of Mr. Boyes took place at St. Lawrence Cemetery on Saturday, the service being conducted by the Rev. C. P. Cowland-Cooper.

The mourners included the widow, Fred and Cyril (sons), Betty and Ruby (daughters), Mrs. French (sister-in-law), Mrs. Claw, Mrs. Parkinson, and employees of Ross and Co.

The floral tributes included wreaths from the widow and family; employees, Ross and Co.; Uncle Jack and Rose; Aunt Nell and family; Aunt Ruth and family; Mrs. Lambert, Olive and family; Aunt May, Uncle Dick and family; colleagues at Ross and Co.; Mrs Claw and family; Mrs. Mayhew and boys; Mr. Parkinson; Mrs. Gee; Mr. Taylor, Phyllis and Harry; Mr and Mrs. Mockett; Mr. Merrell; Mr. and Mrs. Dadson; Mr. and Mrs. Saunders; Mr. Piper; Mr. W. R. Rootes; Mr. and Mrs. Marks.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. H. Maskell, Hardres-street.

BIRCHINGTON

Seen by Guard.—When Joseph Johnson King, of Cross-road, Birchington, was fined £1 at Margate police court on Wednesday for permitting a light to show from his home after black-out on 26th November, it was stated that the light was seen by the guard on a train. Defendant said he drew the curtains first and failed to realise that the outside black-out was not in position. Both he and his wife were old-age pensioners.

Polite but Adamant.—Capt. Donald R. C. Whitcombe was fined 10s. at Margate police court on Wednesday for failing to immobilise his car. P/C Colyer said when he saw the car in Reculvers-avenue, Birchington, the ignition key had been removed and the doors locked but the driver's window was open. He was able to open the door and start the car with his ignition key. The Clerk (Mr. C. C. Maughan) read a letter from defendant in which he said the police officer was polite but adamant.

BUFFS CASUALTIES

A War Office casualty list reports the death of Ptes. L. B. Baker and S. R. McCartney, The Buffs.

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COUNCIL OF READERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AVOIDING C.D. BOREDOM

Sir,—No one will, I am sure, suggest that too much is or could be done for the physical and mental welfare of the members of our fighting services, overseas or here at home, whether they are actively employed in the defence of our homes or in training to fit themselves for that task.

To-day, I am making an appeal on behalf of an equally vital force equally actively employed in our defence, but a force who often have had little done for their physical or mental welfare. I refer to the men and women of our Civil Defence Services.

While the Battle of Britain raged and the enemy did his utmost to destroy our cities and intimidate our people, it was a case of all hands at their job. Then the Civil Defence Services were on their toes, eager to obey the call to action and few there were to whom that call did not come. The day may not be far hence when again they will be fully employed but, meanwhile, what can you and I do to help in tiding over this period of inactivity?

To "stand-by," constantly awaiting a call to action which does not come, is the forerunner to boredom and boredom breeds discontent. If we would have our Civil Defence Services fighting fit for the call that may again come at any moment, it is up to you to help.

Recently, a Regional Welfare Council, composed of a representative of each scheme-making authority in the region, has been formed with myself as chairman. Each representative in his or her own locality is even now actively employed in finding out where help is needed or can be given to make the daily round of the Civil Defence worker more congenial in moments of leisure.

This is where you can help. The immediate need of this council is for funds to provide the necessary recreational facilities and equipment. Subscriptions large or small should be sent to me, at Regional Headquarters, Tunbridge Wells, and they will be most gratefully acknowledged.

Many of you must have sports equipment for which you have no further use and this is a practical way of showing your appreciation of the men and women who have so splendidly backed up the efforts of our fighting services. Search your store cupboards and let me know what games equipment, indoor or outdoor, you can spare and I will arrange for it to be collected and placed where it will be used to the full. All gifts, in money or in kind, will be used in this region.

The Civil Defence Services have given their time and sometimes their lives to help you: is it too much to ask that you should help them?

A. G. BOTTOMLEY,
Deputy Regional Commissioner.

ON GOING TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sir,—If I may briefly reply to W.R.T., I am in no way against Christianity providing it is carried out in one's daily life and not trotted out on Sundays for the glorification of one's personal vanity and the satisfaction of one's neighbours. Attending church regularly is no guarantee of Christianity, neither is forcing one's children to attend Sunday school a guarantee that one has their spiritual welfare at heart. More often than not it is simply resorted to so that mum and day may have a few minutes peace. Should any of my children show any desire to attend either church or Sunday school I should not interfere in any way but encourage them all I could. On the other hand, I would not force them to go, as in that case their hearts would not be in it, therefore they would derive no spiritual benefit.

EVERYDAY CHRISTIAN.

BUFFS IN ACTION

MOPPING-UP IN LIBYA

The communiqué issued by G.H.Q., Cairo, on Wednesday, announced that The Buffs had taken part in the Libyan battle which resulted in British troops from Tobruk joining hands in El Adem with South African and Indian troops from the south-east.

After reporting that the siege of Tobruk had been raised and that an enemy infantry column immediately south of El Adem had been driven westwards with heavy losses, the communiqué stated:

Simultaneously South African armoured cars and mobile columns of Buffs, Punjabi and Rajput troops have been working round the enemy's right rear towards Acroma.

Mopping-up operations north of the road Bardia-Tobruk were continued and our occupation of the big supply centres which the enemy had established at Gambut, halfway between Bardia and Tobruk, is now confirmed.

PLUCKY SERGEANT

RETIRES FROM POLICE FORCE

Sergt. George Frank Wilkinson, of Margate Borough Police Force, is retiring on pension this week.

Before joining the force in May, 1913, Sergt. Wilkinson served for two and a half years with the Surrey Constabulary. He completed his term of service with the Margate force at the beginning of the summer of 1939 but consented to remain until the end of the season. With the outbreak of war a regulation was made by the Home Office preventing policemen retiring except in special circumstances.

The Chief Constable (Mr. W. Palmer) has now released Sergt. Wilkinson on compassionate grounds, owing to the illness of his wife.

A native of Godalming, Surrey, Sergt. Wilkinson was a gardener before entering the police service. He was promoted sergeant in 1935.

In 1926 he was commended by the Borough Coroner for descending the stoke-hole at the Winter Gardens to rescue a man who had been overcome by fumes. He succeeded in getting the man to the surface but he was dead.

For his pluck and devotion to duty Sergt. Wilkinson was commended by the borough justices in 1933. He was on duty near the Nayland Rock one night when he stopped three men who aroused his suspicions. The men attacked him and tried to throw him over the railings on to the sands. Kicking out, Sergt. Wilkinson forced the men to drop him and they then ran away. With the assistance of another officer, Sergt. Wilkinson chased the men and caught them behind Marine-terrace. They were convicted for shopbreaking and assault on the officer

Throughout the last war Sergt. Wilkinson served with the 1st Batt. Coldstream Guards and in 1916 was wounded on the Somme, but again returned to France.

THE OLDEST TRADER

DEATH OF MR. G. BATES

Ramsgate's oldest trader, Mr. George Bates, who retired just before the last war, passed away at his home, Hillcroft, Goodwin-road, Ramsgate, on Thursday, at the age of 93.

In July, Mr. and Mrs. Bates celebrated the 65th anniversary of their wedding day and the previous day went for a car ride round Minster and Monkton.

Mr. Bates will best be remembered by an older generation of Ramsgate people. He was for many years in business in the town as a baker and confectioner, the business being subsequently taken over by the late Alderman W. Coleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Bates were the parents of the late Mrs. S. R. Port, wife of Mr. S. R. Port, head of the well-known Ramsgate firm of builders' merchants.

Their grandson, Mr. H. R. Port, has just been called up for service with the Royal Army Service Corps.

Mr. Bates also had another daughter, the late Mrs. F. E. J. Darby, by a previous marriage.

About 18 months ago Mr. and Mrs. Bates left Ramsgate but they were never so happy as at home together and decided to return.

WARSHIP WEEK MODELS

Members of the Ramsgate Civil Defence services are already engaged on works of art and models for the competition to be held in connection with Ramsgate Warship Week Exhibition.

Warship Week is to be held from 14th-21st March.

In order that plans for an appropriate setting for the competition exhibits can be arranged competitors are asked to let Mr. S. H. Winter, of 19-21 King-street, know the size of their exhibits at as early a date as possible.

Photographs for the portrait gallery of all Ramsgate men and women serving in the Royal Navy and allied forces which is to be a feature of the exhibition, should also be sent to Mr. Winter.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

There will be no extra food rations for Christmas and unless special application is made to the local authority, shop hours will not be extended prior to Christmas.

At a meeting of Ramsgate Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday it was generally agreed that there would be no need to apply for later closing on the three shopping days before Christmas.

It was stated that the food distributing shops would re-open on the Saturday after Christmas for whole or part day, but that in the dry goods trades most shops, in accordance with custom, would remain closed until Monday, 29th December, giving the staffs a four-day holiday.

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We wish you all the happiest possible Christmas—and hope the New Year will bring peace and happier times for us all

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W. R. MOCKRIDGE, Proprietor

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AN OFFICIAL'S TRAVELS

CAR ALLOWANCE DEBATE AT MARGATE

At a meeting of Margate Town Council on Tuesday it was recommended that Mr. H. F. Brandram Jones, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., deputy waterworks engineer at Brighton, should be appointed Waterworks Engineer at a salary of £600, rising by £50 a year to £750, plus payment of a car allowance at the rate of £104 a year.

When the report came up for confirmation, Councillor S. W. Pearce asked whether, in view of the car allowance, the Water Engineer would charge fares when going to Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, or other places in close proximity to Margate. He considered the £104 should cover the use of the car for travelling to such places on official business. If he had to go to London or anywhere of that description it was all right to charge fares.

The Mayor (Alderman G. P. Hoare) said he understood that under the terms of the appointment approved by the Waterworks Committee the car allowance was in respect of journeys within the water area, and that the cost of any travelling outside that area would be met in the ordinary way by the payment of fares.

Councillor Pearce said that where the destination was within 40 miles of this area he thought the car should be used and fares not charged.

Alderman E. S. Linington pointed out that Maidstone was 45 miles away, making 90 miles travelling for the return journey, and Tunbridge Wells was nearly 70 miles away. He did not think it reasonable for Councillor Pearce to raise such a question without giving notice. If the Water Engineer was ordered to go to Tunbridge Wells it would be quite outside his ordinary routine of work. The car allowance was granted for travelling to Wingham and other places in the water area. To use the car to go to Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells would create a serious inroad into his car allowance and petrol allowance, which was only adequate for the mileage to be covered in the water area.

The report was adopted without further comment.

MARGATE'S ACTIVE WOMEN

Formed just over a year ago, the Margate centre of the W.V.S. now has almost 400 members.

The activities of the centre, like those of the Ramsgate and Broadstairs centres, are many and varied and are directed by the Mayoress (Mrs. Hoare), as organiser.

Within three weeks of the formation of the centre a working party was organised. The Mayoress opened a wool fund by means of which wool is purchased for the members to make comforts. In addition old clothes are cut up and remade and thousands of garments have already been despatched to local soldiers, sailors and airmen, wardens, firemen, Home Guard, lifeboatmen, men of the Merchant Navy, and Margate children evacuated to Staffordshire.

At present members are helping to make 2,000 sand mats for dealing with incendiary bombs.

During the year the Rest Centre has been open nine times and W.V.S. members have supplied the wants of people rendered homeless by enemy action. Nearly 250 people have found comfort at the centre.

Members are also responsible for two mobile canteens presented to the town and others help daily to serve meals at the British Restaurant.

At Birchington members staff a canteen for troops and members are at present being enrolled to look after a similar canteen to be opened at Westgate.

The women of Margate, like those in the sister towns, are carrying out an excellent job of work.

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TOC H MOURNS

FUNERAL OF MR. E. A. READ

The funeral took place at Ramsgate on Wednesday of Mr. Ernest A. Read, chairman of the local branch of Toc H, whose death was reported in our last issue.

The interment was preceded by a service conducted at Holy Trinity Church by the Rev. A. H. Culmer.

A number of members of Ramsgate Toc H were present and the Pilgrim's Hymn was sung. Miss Milgate was at the organ.

The mourners were the widow, Mr. Charles Read and Mr. Cyril Read (sons), Mr. and Mrs. C. Port (brother-in-law and sister), Mr. and Mrs. Brisley (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs. Godfrey (sister), Mrs. Price, Mr. and Mrs. Eastland (brother-in-law and sister), Miss J. Port and Miss B. Port (nieces), Mrs. Chapman and Miss L. Chapman.

Floral tributes were received from the widow, Charlie and Cyril (sons); Edie, Steve and family; Floss, Reece, Doreen, John; Dot, Charlie, Joy and Bar; Cissie, Perce and Arthur; Nellie, Wallie, Brenda and Martin; Uncle Geo; Aunt Dollie, May and Grace; Mr. and Mrs. Eastland and Charlie; Amy, Stan, Den and Jack; Ramsgate branch Toc H; Ramsgate Food Office; Holy Trinity Mothers' Union; Nan; Miss Pelham and Miss Samson; Mr. and Mrs. Allen; Mrs. Wright; Mr. and Mrs. Hunt and boys; Mr. and Mrs. Easton; Mr. and Mrs. Weeks and family; Mr. and Mrs. Pay; Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin; Mr. and Mrs. Windley and Reg; Secretary and Committee, Thanet Hospitals Contributory Scheme; Mr. and Mrs. Saxby; Mr. and Mrs. Dray, Kenneth and Audrey; Mr. and Mrs. Belsey; Mr. and Mrs. Stockbridge; Friends and neighbours; Florrie and Frank; Aunt Minnie and family.

The funeral arrangements were undertaken by Mr. Walter J. Austen, of Hereson-road, Ramsgate.

A GOOD FRIEND

TOC H TRIBUTE

Ernest Archibald Read has passed to his rest, and we of Toc H, of which he was one of the original members when the local branch was formed, will sadly miss his cheery presence at our gatherings. Only those intimately acquainted with him realised that for many years he endured the suffering of a continuous struggle with ill-health. At times he was very ill, but he never gave in and never complained.

As a young man he went to Australia, and returned to England as a member of the Australian Expeditionary Force during the Great War of 1914-18. Subsequently he obtained a position as electrician at the Granville Hotel, Ramsgate, but was compelled to relinquish it owing to illness. For the last two years he was on the staff of the Food Control Office in Queen-street.

It was typical of Ernie Read to keep on to the end, and the news of his death came as a great shock to us all. As chairman of the Ramsgate branch of Toc H, he attended many of their meetings when absence would have been readily understood and excused, but he was heart and soul in the movement and a splendid example of the true Toc H stalwart. He never missed an opportunity of rendering some good service to his fellow men, often at further risk to his health, and he was a great inspiration to those around him in all aspects of Toc H work. During his chairmanship he initiated a number of new members, the last of which happened to be his elder son, whom he welcomed to the branch only a few weeks ago.

Ernest Read was a type of man who accomplished a wonderful amount of work without saying much about it—a good friend and cheery companion who not only believed in Toc H but honestly tried to live up to its high principles of Unselfish Sacrifice and Unselfish Service. He did much to maintain contact with members scattered the world over on war service and was ever hopeful of sharing in the after-war reunion.

To his sorrowing wife and two sons is tendered the deepest sympathy of every member of the branch, each of whom shares in a sense of great personal loss.

Our chairman has passed on to join the Elder Brethren, leaving us to enshrine a happy memory in the concluding lines of the Toc H prayer that he himself so often recited:

"At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning,
We will remember them."

C.V.H.

THIRD MILITARY BALL

The third military ball in aid of the Mayor of Ramsgate's Services Comforts Fund will be held at the West Cliff Theatre to-night from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

As usual the music will be provided by an augmented orchestra under the ever-popular direction of Fred Hargraves, maestro of the Knights of Swing.

The bar will be licensed until 12.30 a.m.

The price of admission is 2s.

BOMBED GERMANY

OLD RUYMIAN KILLED

An old boy of Chatham House School, Ramsgate, Sergt.-Pilot Aubrey Poupard, R.A.F., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Poupard, of Hackthorn, Canterbury-road, Margate, lost his life while taking part in a raid on Germany.

Twenty-one years of age, Sergt.-Pilot Poupard was reported missing in September. Since then his parents had heard that four members of the crew of the aircraft, of which their son was captain, were killed, and they have now been officially notified that he also lost his life.

Returning from a flight over Germany in June, Sergt.-Pilot Poupard's bomber crashed in the North Sea, but the crew took to the dinghy and were rescued a few hours later.

Sergt.-Pilot Poupard's brother, Sergt. Denis Poupard, is serving with the Royal Artillery in the Middle East.

TWINS LOSE FATHER

D.F.M. AIRMAN KILLED

One of four brothers serving in the Royal Air Force, Flt.-Sergt. C. A. Saunders, D.F.M., son of Flying-Officer and Mrs. H. R. Saunders, formerly of 26 Manston-road, Ramsgate, has been reported killed in action. Last month he was reported missing following a raid on Essen.

In March, when he went to Buckingham Palace to receive his decoration from H.M. the King, Flt.-Sergt. Saunders was accompanied by his twin daughters, Jacqueline and Frances, aged two, and his photograph with them was published in many newspapers both in England and in Canada and the United States.

Flt.-Sergt. Saunders' mother is now living at Keston, Kent. Of his three brothers in the R.A.F., two are officers and the third is a flight-sergeant.

An American Fights for England

HIS MOTHER HELPS FRONT-LINE HOSPITAL

Lawrence R. Maguire, of Baldwin-street, East Orange, New Jersey, U.S.A., hated Hitler.

America was not then at war, so he came to England to help in the fight against the Dictators. It was not many months before he was a sergeant-pilot in the Royal Air Force.

Sergt.-Pilot Maguire was posted to a bomber squadron and made many flights over enemy-occupied territory. After bombing objectives in occupied France early this summer his machine was damaged but he got it back to this country and down on an aerodrome although the landing gear was out of action.

Not long afterwards he was again in the air. This time he and his crew were shot down in the Channel after their guns had jammed and they were caught in flak from escort ships after bombing a convoy.

An air-sea rescue launch rushed to the scene and Sergt.-Pilot Maguire and his crew were brought safely ashore.

"Something like a miracle happened that the plane held together," he wrote from a bed in Ramsgate General Hospital.

The British Way.

On Thanksgiving Day, 20th November, the young airman's mother, Mrs. Rita D. Maguire, wrote to Ramsgate General Hospital thanking them for the care which they had bestowed on her only son.

"It was a great comfort to us to know he was treated so well," she wrote. "After he was transferred to R.A.F. hospital he wrote that he felt it had been a privilege to meet the doctors, nurses and sisters at Ramsgate; nothing had been too much trouble for them to do for him, and it had been done so cheerfully—the British way—and that this 'front-line hospital,' although so heavily burdened, was showing the world how to carry on.

"He also said that he had never needed or wanted anything since enlisting because the R.A.F. treated them so well, but that we could do something for him now. When he was leaving Ramsgate he noticed on the hospital entrance an appeal for aid and he would like us, through British Relief Headquarters, clubs or churches, to aid this drive because the hospital was doing so much to help air raid victims and Ramsgate to Dover was the most accessible point for bombings."

Enclosing a cheque for 25 dollars for the hospital extension fund, given by a neighbour, Mrs. Maguire continued "I hope to be able to do something worth while, when I hear from British Relief, in grateful appreciation for my son's recovery. After three months in hospital and convalescent depots he is now back with his squadron. All my prayers and good wishes for your wonderful work."

FUNERAL OF MR. OSCAR DEUTSCH

The funeral took place at Whitton Cemetery, Birmingham, last week, of Mr. Oscar Deutsch, chairman and managing director of Odeon Theatres Ltd., who died in a London nursing home aged 48 years.

Representatives of every phase of the cinematograph industry were present at the funeral, and the big attendance at a memorial service included Mrs. Deutsch and her three sons.

Dr. Cohen, leader of the Hebrew community in Birmingham, who conducted the service, paid tribute to the work of Mr. Deutsch.

In addition to being a pioneer of the super-cinema, Mr. Deutsch had taken an increasing interest in the production side of films and was largely responsible for financing "49th Parallel," which was shown at the Odeon Theatre, Ramsgate, last week.

AN EXCELLENT MOTHER

CHARGED WITH INFANTICIDE

On a charge of infanticide, Mrs. Mary Hogben, 41, of Gordon-square, Birchington, was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court when she appeared before Margate magistrates on Wednesday.

Mrs. Hogben, wife of an aircraftman in the R.A.F., was originally charged with the murder of her child, Michael Frederick Hogben, aged 11 weeks.

Represented by Mr. Malcolm Borg, accused pleaded not guilty.

Describing it as a very tragic case, Mr. J. F. Claxton, who appeared for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said Mrs. Hogben had four other children, all girls, whose ages ranged from four to 16 years.

On 11th September Mrs. Hogben gave birth to another child, a boy, and although the birth was a normal one, there was little doubt that the accused was extremely depressed and seemed worried prior to the birth. She appeared to recover physically and after a month left with the child to join her other children, who had been removed to her husband's sister in Bedford. She stayed there for a month, during which time she corresponded with her husband. When she returned she brought the four children and the baby with her.

Her husband noticed that his wife looked bent and haggard when she returned, and unfortunately, very shortly afterwards air raids started again. From that time onwards she seemed to become more depressed than ever, in all probability being fearful for the lives of the children rather than herself.

Husband's Vain Search.

On 25th November, being unwell, she stayed in bed until 1.30 p.m. According to a statement which she made to the police at a later stage, she got up and left the house about 4.30 with the baby in a perambulator, moving somewhat aimlessly round the streets. It was reported to her husband that she had gone out with the child, and he started to search for her. Failing to find her he reported the matter to the police.

About 10.40 p.m. P/C Colyer, who was in Canterbury-road, saw a woman who answered to her description pushing a perambulator. He approached her and the accused said "I have killed my child and want to give myself up." It so happened that her husband, who had been continuing his search, arrived at that moment. In his presence the woman said to P/C Colyer "I tied him up this evening after I came out and have been walking round ever since. I don't know why I have done it. He was born in an air raid and there have been raids ever since, so he would have been killed anyway."

There was one slight inaccuracy in that statement, said Mr. Claxton. There was no air raid on 11th September but there was one a few days before, and the bench might consider that was near enough to cause her mind to be mentally unbalanced.

The police officer found the body of the child, covered by the perambulator cover and a pillow, and with a napkin tied round his head. The body was taken to a police box, where the officer tried artificial respiration until the police surgeon arrived. Death was due to asphyxia.

At the police station Mrs. Hogben said to D/I Cory "I could not look after it and that is what made me do it." In the presence of her husband she later made a statement.

Pathetic Statement.

The statement made by accused read: "Round about half-past four to-day, Tuesday, 25th November, I took the baby out in his perambulator. He was crying when I took him out. I just walked about in Birchington. He kept crying, so I just tied a nappy over his head. I don't know whether it went round his neck or just under his chin. I then walked about for a long time. I knew it was no use going home, so I went up to a policeman I saw in the Square and told him what I had done. I think something has gone wrong with me. I could not look after him and that is why I did it. He was born when we were having so many raids and I think that has shattered me. I am very sorry, that is all, but it is no use saying that now."

Explaining that under the Infanticide Act, 1938, a case could be dealt with as though it were manslaughter and not murder, Mr. Claxton said that if the bench considered there was a reasonable possibility that the balance of the woman's mind might have been disturbed owing to not having fully recovered from the effects of the birth they could commit her for trial on a charge of infanticide.

L/A/C Arthur Frederick Hogben, the husband, said he did not want to condemn his own wife but agreed to give evidence when told it might help her.

In reply to Mr. Claxton, witness said that when she returned home at the beginning of November his wife seemed bent and haggard and he thought she had a touch of 'flu. There were several air raids and she wished she had never brought the children back. When he heard at 5.30 p.m. on 25th November that she had gone out he searched for her on his bicycle and reported the matter to the police. He went on searching but did not find her until 10.45 p.m. at the police box.

In reply to Mr. Borg, witness said his wife would not go into a shelter when there was an air raid warning because she was afraid the baby would catch cold.

Midwife's Tribute.

Evidence was given by Harriett Brunger, state certificated midwife employed by Margate Corporation, who said Mrs. Hogben was disappointed the child was not a girl as she said she did not know what to do with a boy.

"She was an excellent mother to all her children," added witness, "and there was nothing she would not do for them."

In reply to Mr. Borg, witness said the fact that her baby was a boy "absolutely bowled her over."

Dr. Walter Groome, police surgeon, stated that after examining the child he said to Mrs. Hogben "This is all very sad." She then told him she could not perform her duties, life was not worth living and she had done what she did because she thought the child might have been killed by a bomb. She also said she had placed something over the child's face, turned the child over and placed a pillow on top. Witness formed the opinion that she was undergoing great mental strain and anxiety.

"From the evidence I have heard and the facts I have discovered," added Dr. Groome, "it is possible in my opinion that at the time of the commission of the offence by this poor woman the balance of her mind was disturbed by reason of the fact that she had not fully recovered from the effects of the birth of the child or by reason of the effect of lactation consequent upon the birth of the child." Such circumstances had a very profound influence upon the conduct and mental outlook of many women.

P/C Colyer, who applied artificial respiration until the arrival of Dr. Groome, said that when accused approached him she said "I have killed my child and want to give myself up."

Inside the perambulator, said witness, he found a full-size feather bed pillow lying full length, under which was a pram cover and then the body of the child lying face downwards. A Turkish towelling napkin covered the child's face to just above the nose and was tied loosely at the back of the head. The body was fully clothed except for shoes and socks.

D/I Cory said that when she was charged Mrs. Hogben replied "I am sorry I did it. That is all I can say but it's no good saying that now."

Mr. Borg, formally entering a plea of not guilty, reserved his defence.

The bench committed accused for trial at the Central Criminal Court on a charge of infanticide.

The Clerk (Mr. C. C. Maughan) read out the amended charge, which alleged that by a certain wilful act, namely tying a napkin over its face, the accused caused the death of the child by asphyxia.

BOUGHT ARMY CLOTHING

MARGATE FIREMEN FINED

Fines of £2 each were imposed by Margate magistrates on Wednesday on two firemen who admitted buying Army clothing.

Ronald D. Hawes, of Holly-gardens, pleaded guilty to buying a vest, two pairs of pants and three blankets, contrary to the Army Act, 1881, and George Robertson, of Salmestone-rise, admitted buying a vest, two pairs of pants and a pair of boots.

The Chief Constable (Mr. W. Palmer) said information reached the police that some Army property had been sold, and D/S Presland and P/C Longley went to the Norfolk Garage fire station. They saw Robertson and told him they were making inquiries about Army property sold there a few nights previously. He said he bought a pair of boots, vest and pants from a soldier. The vest and pants were of no use to him so he sold them to Hawes for 4s. He paid 6s. for the boots.

When told he would be reported for a summons, Robertson said he was in the watch-room when someone asked if anyone wanted to buy a pair of Army boots, size nine. Thinking they might do for him in the garage, he went out and saw a soldier with them. He paid him 6s. for them. The soldier also asked him if he wanted a vest and pants, and he gave him 10s. for the lot. He was under the impression that they belonged to the man, otherwise he would not have had anything to do with them.

The Chief Constable said the boots were the property of a soldier who handed them into the store while on leave.

The officers later saw Hawes, who admitted buying the pants and vest from Robertson.

Mr. Malcolm Borg, for Hawes, said the transaction was done quite openly and the question of who they belonged to did not enter Hawes' head. When the police went to see him he gave them every assistance.

The Mayor (Alderman G. P. Hoare) said the bench regarded the offence as very serious, and hoped the case would be a warning to everyone to use more discretion when buying things from members of the Forces.

OLD PEOPLE RETURN

BUT BARRED FROM PHILANTHROPIC HOMES

At the annual meeting of the Alexandra Philanthropic Homes, Margate, on Tuesday, it was stated that four of the homes were occupied by five people.

Councillor W. J. Perkins said some of the inmates had returned to Margate and had asked why they could not go back to the homes. He wondered why they were barred when four of the homes were in occupation.

Mr. W. Booth Reeve, who was re-elected president, said they were all anxious to see the inmates come back but under present conditions the committee thought it best that they should remain with friends.

The annual report stated: "The inmates are still dispersed throughout the country for safety, and in the opinion of the committee, until conditions improve, they should not return to the homes. Every month the money due to them from the Barker Trust is forwarded to them. It is hoped sincerely that it will not be long before circumstances permit of their return."

Thanking the Matron, Miss E. Braisier, for the care and attention she had given to the homes and grounds, the president said that during the past few months three men living there had taken greater interest in the homes by doing a considerable amount of work. They had pruned the trees, dug up the ground and planted vegetables on the land at the back. For a long time he had tried to get the men inmates to do something there and at last they were getting some help from them. He had never seen the homes look better.

CHRISTMAS PARCELS

Help the Railways to keep the lines clear for War traffic by sending as few Christmas parcels as possible

Why not send a War Savings Certificate instead ?

BRITISH RAILWAYS

GWR LMS LNER SR

A YEAR AGO

A former Chatham House boy, Lieut. Arthur Sidney Barron, R.N.V.R., formerly of Northdown-road, Margate, was reported missing from an armed cruiser after it had been torpedoed and sunk.

Jack Lambert, former Arsenal and and Margate football star, was killed in a motoring accident on the Great Cambridge-road, Enfield.

Lieut.-Col. N. V. Sadler, D.C.M., Officer Commanding the Dover and East Kent A.A. defences, was awarded the O.B.E. It was announced that the men under Col. Sadler's command had shot down 90 German planes.

Three children who were evacuated to the Midlands to escape German bombs were drowned in the River Trent.

Margate's population has shown an increase of about 4,000 since September, when it was estimated at about 10,000.

25 YEARS AGO

(CUTTINGS FROM OUR COLUMNS)

THE WAR OF 1914-18

Among the new Cabinet, Lord Curzon, Sir Edward Carson and Mr. A. Bonar Law have residences in Thanet. Mr. Arthur Henderson, another member, has spoken from the Brotherhood platform in Ramsgate.

* * * *

The popular manager of the King's Theatre, Ramsgate, Mr. R. V. Crow, has left the "movies" for a sphere of action where movement of a different kind is essential—the Royal Naval Air Service. Mrs. R. V. Crow will undertake the duties of managing director, assisted by Mr. Arthur Hellier as acting manager.

* * * *

Mr. John E. Saxby, manager of the Margate Corporation entertainments, has joined an officers' training corps.

* * * *

The steamer Burcombe, which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean at the beginning of this month, was commanded by Capt. Frederick West, a Ramsgate man, and a son of the late Capt. West, Chief of the Fire Brigade. A telegram has been received by his relatives at Ramsgate saying he was safely landed at a port near which the steamer was sunk.

* * * *

The news that another Ramsgate man has been granted the Military Medal for gallantry is saddened by the fact that the honoured soldier has since been reported killed in action. He is Lieut. Roger Colgate.

* * * *

The formation of a Ramsgate War Savings Committee took definite shape at a representative meeting held at Albion House on Thursday. Mr. J. H. Robinson seconded a resolution that a committee should be formed and Mr. J. Thorn Drury was elected secretary.

* * * *

Coxswain William Cooper, of the Ramsgate lifeboat, has been awarded the silver medal of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution for gallant work recently performed on the Goodwin Sands. The award was made in connection with services to the s.s. Siberia, of New York, which ran aground on the sands.

* * * *

A large number of wounded soldiers from Nethercourt V.A.D. Hospital spent a happy afternoon on Saturday at the County School for Girls, when they were delightfully entertained by the headmistress and her staff, with the assistance of some of the clever scholars.

50 YEARS AGO

(CUTTINGS FROM OUR COLUMNS)

SHADES OF DICKENS

From what cause we know not, but judging from the cases brought up at Ramsgate police court day by day for the past week or two, a generation of thieves seems to be growing up in our midst. A day or two since no less than five lads were convicted of theft. Two of the number had been in a reformatory, so that the only alternative was to order a sound birching for them. The others were on Tuesday sent to an institution in which they are supposed to "reform" and become good boys, although in many cases they don't. Then, again, a boy was brought up on Saturday, and another on Tuesday, all for petty thefts. In the case of the lad brought before the bench on Saturday he was actually found by a constable stealing coke at six o'clock in the morning.

The question therefore naturally arises, would a boy of tender years think of doing such a thing on his own initiative? In such cases there must be something radically wrong in home influence. As a matter of fact, in some cases that have been tried in our courts, the parents might—if they met their deserts—be punished instead of the children. However good a lad's natural disposition be, what is he to do if by not begging or stealing he is threatened with a thrashing by his parents and, if he does steal, a number of strokes from a birch rod or imprisonment? Even if parents do not actually ask their children to commit crime to pander to their own indolence, we are afraid that in too many cases they wink at the delinquencies of their offspring.

DECEMBER GALES

A heavy southerly gale was blowing in the Channel on Monday. The squalls were terrific in force, accompanied as they were by heavy showers of sleet and rain. There was a renewal of the storm on Thursday when the wind blew with the force of a hurricane. The Ramsgate, Broadstairs and Margate lifeboats all rendered gallant service to ships in distress.

TRAWLER MINESWEEPER

BROADSTAIRS WARSHIP WEEK AIM

Broadstairs and St. Peter's have set out to save £62,000, the cost of a trawler minesweeper, during their Warship Week (7th-14th March).

Those appointed to the Warship Week Committee are Councillors B. J. Pearson (chairman), B. Humphrey and G. W. Lane, Mrs. J. Boyd, Mrs. A. E. Davis, the Rev. Ronald D. d'E. Meredith, Messrs. J. L. Davis, B. H. Lodge, L. C. Beak and L. Bowman, with Mr. F. H. Ward as hon. secretary.

Mr. E. Jackling, who has succeeded Mr. F. J. Portch as Assistant Commissioner to the National Savings movement in the area, addressed a meeting at which the target was decided upon at Pierremont Hall on Tuesday.

Mr. E. F. Owen read a letter from Lord Kindersley congratulating the local committee on their national savings efforts.

FORK HANDLES SPADE HANDLES

NOW IN STOCK AT PORTS

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BUILDERS CONTRACTORS DECORATORS

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107 & 109 GRANGE ROAD RAMSGATE

House Repairs of Every Description

NO JOB too SMALL or too LARGE to command Personal Attention

Telephone 300

A WARTIME CHRISTMAS

The Beers brewed on the Queen Street site have been enjoyed at Christmas since the time when there were only about a hundred people in Ramsgate, let us drink to the time when we are flourishing again.

TOMSON & LTD WOTTON

THE PENALTY IS DEATH

YOUNG MINER BOUND OVER

A warning that any further cases of looting would be severely dealt with, and a stern reminder that serious cases could carry with them the death penalty, was given by the magistrates at Ramsgate police court on Monday.

Wilfred Howard Cleaves, aged 22, a miner, whose address was given as Huntington, Stafford, was charged on remand with stealing from a house which had been damaged by war operations a razor, value 7s. 6d., the property of Thomas Price, between 1st and 30th August, 1941.

At the previous hearing Cleaves had been convicted of stealing plums from an orchard and the magistrates' decision was postponed until they had heard the second case.

D/S Fortescue said that on 7th December he saw defendant at the police station and told him he was making enquiries respecting a house which had been broken into. He also asked him to account for a razor which he sold to a person at Northwood. Defendant replied "I went there with a soldier and I did take the razor."

The officer said defendant then made a statement in which he said that towards the end of August he became friendly with a soldier whom he knew only as Dick. One night after they left the Northwood Social Club the soldier said he knew a place where they could go and sleep for the night. They went into a house which had been damaged in a raid and then into the house next door which was furnished but unoccupied. They slept in a bed upstairs. He took a razor from the house and sold it to a man for a pint of beer. The soldier told him he had been in the house before.

D/S Fortescue said defendant was very frank and helpful.

Cleaves told the magistrates he was sorry for what he had done.

Stole From Social Club.

The Chief Constable (Mr. S. F. Butler) said the house from which the razor was stolen had been damaged by enemy action and had been repaired. Defendant asked that two other cases should be taken into consideration. One was of stealing, in conjunction with another person, from the Northwood Social Club, cigarettes, a bottle of cocktail and other articles to the value of £2 17s. 2d., and the second of stealing the sum of 7s. 6d. in money from his lodgings in Effingham-street.

The Chief Constable said he wished to point out the seriousness of the charge of stealing from a house which had been damaged by enemy action.

"Unfortunately in this town we have had quite a number of cases," said the Chief Constable, "and it is becoming somewhat serious. A number of persons seem to have no respect for the property of others which has been left somewhat unguarded and unattended as a result of enemy bombings in this district. It is considered a very grave matter. Although I am not blaming this young man for any more than he has pleaded guilty to I wish to point out the seriousness of it. It is a matter which is difficult to detect and I hope people will appreciate the gravity of it. I hope people will be prepared to come forward and help the police. So many people have left the town and it is difficult for the police to give as much supervision as they would like. We are doing our best.

Pillaged Homes.

"It is very unfortunate," continued the Chief Constable, "when people have to leave their homes and come back to find they have been pillaged. There is the death penalty in severe cases."

Announcing that defendant would be bound over for two years in his own recognisances in the sum of £5, the Chairman (Mr. H. J. Perry) advised Cleaves to "leave the booze alone." His appearance in court was due to two things—drink and getting into bad company. He would also have to pay 19s. costs.

"Following the remarks of the Chief Constable, the bench feel very strongly on this question of breaking into evacuated houses," said the Chairman. "In a very serious case there is the death penalty and the bench are determined, if any more cases are brought before them, to deal with them in a very severe manner. It is a most despicable thing that people cannot leave the town and feel that their property is secure. Surely we have some morality. We are fighting for certain principles and those principles are being ignored in these cases. We want everyone to realise the seriousness of the position. We cannot tolerate anyone breaking into the houses of people who have left the town."

EARLY MORNING CALL

ANNOYS GARAGE OWNER

A garage proprietor, who was alleged by the police to have been "awkward, obstinate and abusive" when called out one night after his premises had been found insecure, appeared at Ramsgate police court on Monday.

Ashley Thomas Arter, aged 58, motor engineer, of Broad-street, Ramsgate, pleaded not guilty to a summons under the Defence Regulations alleging that he failed to see that his premises, in which there were a number of cars, were properly secured on 5th December.

P/C Terry said that at 3.30 a.m. on the morning of 5th December he went to defendant's garage in Broad-street in company with P/C Brown. The premises had been found insecure. He had to call defendant out to inspect the premises. At first he refused but later came down. When he came into the street defendant asked witness for his name and number, which he gave him.

Witness handed to the magistrates four slips of paper containing remarks alleged to have been made by the defendant.

The officer said he asked defendant to remain with him while he inspected the premises, but he refused to do so. Witness examined 17 cars on the premises, two of which were not immobilised and which he was able to start.

Defendant said the wicket door of the garage had been forced. He had been working at the garage until 12.30. Having been in bed only a short time he was not in a very good temper when he was called out.

Witness said he examined the door but found on it no marks of forcible entry.

Looked Round for Burglars.

Defendant: Did you look round to see if there were burglars on the premises?

Witness: Yes. That was the reason I asked you to remain, but you refused.

In reply to a further question, witness said "Your attitude was such that it was impossible to reason with you."

Handed the four slips of paper, defendant read them and said "Yes, I asked him if he was scared," and "Yes, I told him he ought to be in the Army."

P/C Brown said when the examined the premises at 3.10 a.m. he found the doors of the garage open. He temporarily secured them while he went to the police station to find where Mr. Arter lived. At 3.30 he went with P/C Terry to the hotel where defendant was staying, and later defendant came to the garage. Defendant was very abusive and all the time he was at the garage continued to use abusive language. When P/C Terry began to examine the cars defendant said "I will leave you to get on with it. I have something else —— well better to do."

In reply to defendant, witness said he examined the doors carefully and found no signs of forcible entry. The doors and the lock were in working order.

In reply to the Chief Constable witness said that if the doors had been forced he would have been unable to secure them as he did. He had never heard it suggested before that morning that someone might have forced open the door.

Worked Till 12.30 a.m.

In evidence defendant said he worked at the garage until 12.30 and he slammed the wicket door, which had a yale lock, behind him. He then pressed it to make sure it was closed. He slept very heavily and when the police arrived the proprietor of the hotel had to come into his bedroom to rouse him. He understood the officers to say something about cars with rotor arms on and he said a few words to them. When they got to the garage they pushed him in as though they were going to lock him in. The following morning he found marks on the door indicating that it had been forced open. He had previously lost things from the garage but he had not reported it to the police.

The Chief Constable: If you have lost things before all the more reason why you should take precautions to see that the premises are secure.

Defendant: I do everything I can.

The Chief Constable: Quite a number of times your premises have been found insecure. More than any other place in the borough.

Defendant: Since when?

The Chief Constable: Over a period of years. If your premises are in such a bad condition as you suggest all the more reason why the vehicles should be immobilised.

Defendant: The majority of them are.

The Chief Constable: Do you suggest now that these premises were broken into?

Defendant: I don't suggest, I am sure they were.

The Chief Constable: I put it to you that that is not true. Have you made any complaint?

Defendant: I thought it was not much use as rotor arms seemed to be the only thing the police were concerned with.

In further cross-examination the Chief Constable said it would be much better if the defendant acted up to the spirit of the Order relative to the immobilisation of cars.

"Do you think this filthy abuse of the police is right?" asked the Chief Constable.

"No, I don't," replied defendant.

Apologised for the Language.

The Chief Constable: May I suggest that in future you treat the police a little more respectfully?

Defendant: Yes, I will.

The Chief Constable: I think it will be just as well for you if you do so. I am not going to tolerate this abuse of the police when they are carrying out their duties.

Defendant: I quite agree I am at fault there. I had only just got into bed.

The Chief Constable: You were awkward and obstinate.

Defendant: I need not have got up at all if I had not wished to.

Defendant said he put only a few clothes on before he got up. The police made such a noise that all the people in the hotel were awakened and he thought the place was on fire. He wished to apologise for the language he used.

The Chief Constable said there were ten previous motoring fines against defendant, ranging from 5s. to £5.

Announcing that defendant would be fined £5, the Chairman (Mr. H. J. Perry) said the magistrates were rather surprised that a business man of the standing of defendant should have acted in such a manner when the police were carrying out their duty. His experience was that the police acted with discretion and consideration.

"What is that for?" asked defendant when the Chairman announced the fine.

The Clerk (Mr. E. A. Knight): For the offence disclosed by the summons.

The Chairman: I am very sorry to see you in this position.

Defendant: I shall have to try and charge it back to you in some way or another.

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CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Ramsgate is not to be without its Christmas fare as far as entertainments are concerned.

On Monday and Tuesday evenings next week the Mayor of Ramsgate's Troopers will present a special Christmas programme at the West Cliff Theatre. New songs and sketches have been rehearsed by the party, who have prepared a bumper entertainment.

Tickets at 1s. and 6d. are now on sale and the proceeds will be devoted to the Mayor's Services Comforts Fund.

ROAD CAR COMPANY'S PROFIT

The net profit for the year to 30th September last of the East Kent Road Car Co. was £98,216, compared with £22,248 the previous year, after providing for depreciation and taxation.

A dividend of 8 per cent. is being paid on the ordinary shares (against nil the previous year) and the sum of £54,872 is being carried forward (against £15,636 in 1939-40).

A War Office casualty list announces that L/Corpl. A. R. Smith, The Buffs, is a prisoner of war.

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Raidless Nights.—Among gifts for tanks acknowledged by Lord Beaverbrook, Minister of Supply, is a sum of 7s. 6d. from Miss F. Bates, of Ramsgate, "collection on raidless nights."

Christmas Day Cinema.—Ramsgate magistrates on Monday gave permission for cinematograph performances to be given at the Odeon Cinema, Ramsgate, from 2 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Christmas Day.

Husband's Arrears.—When George Albert Scott, of Bloomsbury-road, Ramsgate, was summoned at the borough police court on Monday for arrears under a maintenance order in favour of his wife he was ordered to keep up the weekly payment of £1 and to pay 4s. a week off the arrears. Scott promised to do so.

Cyclists Wed.—Members of the Ramsgate and District Road Club, Mr. Ernest Frank Spain, only son of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Spain, of Bloomsbury-road, Ramsgate, and Miss Winifred Smelt, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smelt, formerly of St. George's-road, Ramsgate, were married at the Holy Redeemer Church, Lamorbey, Sidcup, on 6th December. The bride, who wore a dress of white crepe embroidered with silver and pearl beads, and carried a bouquet of red roses and white heather, was attended by Miss Gladys Harrison and Miss Rose Smelt (cousins), who wore blue taffeta dresses, with hats of the same material, and carried bouquets of pink carnations. Mr A. E. Button, cousin of the bridegroom, acted as best man.

STILL SMILING

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM GERMANY

As cheerful as ever is Pte. Alfred (Joe) Emptage, The Buffs, a prisoner of war at Stalag VIII B, in letters to his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Lurcock, of 110 Hereson-road, Ramsgate.

At the end of March he wrote "It won't be long now." In his latest epistle, dated 7th November, he wrote "Just one more letter nearer to the time when I shall be home."

As evidence that he is both in the best of health and good spirits, Pte. Emptage enclosed two photographs showing him with "chin up and still smiling."

In one picture, a group of five, Pte. Emptage was accompanied by his room mates, Basil Taylor, Ted Rushton, Tom Moran and George Collins. All look well and fit.

The other photograph shows a working party of some 35 prisoners of war, all of whom were smiling when the camera clicked.

An old boy of Christ Church School, Ramsgate, Pte. Emptage was reported missing on 17th May, 1940, and it was not until the following September that his mother first heard from him in Germany but his letters have since arrived regularly.

RAMSGATE SOLDIER'S BRIDE

The wedding took place at Holy Trinity Church, Ramsgate, last week of Pte. Victor Ronald Honess, only son of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Honess, of 20 Church-road, Ramsgate, to Miss Hilda Cox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cox, of Hereson-road, Ramsgate.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a rose Dubarry gown with navy blue accessories and carried a bouquet of pink roses.

Her attendants, Miss Dora and Winifred Honess, sisters of the bridegroom, wore gowns of floral silk and carried bouquets of pink chrysanthemums, and little Miss Shirley Cox, the bride's niece, wore a pink dress and carried a posy of flowers.

The honeymoon was spent at Headcorn, Kent.

THE WRONG SACK

SEMOLINA SOLD FOR OATMEAL

A nominal fine of 5s. and 17s. 6d. costs was imposed at Ramsgate police court on Friday when Messrs. G. Mence Smith Ltd. were summoned for selling semolina—meal derived wholly from wheat—as fine oatmeal at their King-street branch on 23rd October.

Mr. K. F. Speakman, who prosecuted, explained that Mr. Martin, a sampling officer employed by the Corporation, asked a young lady assistant for 1lb. of fine oatmeal and was handed a packet for which he paid 3½d. Analysis showed that the packet contained semolina.

In reply to Mr. E. C. Allfree, who appeared for the defence, Mr. Martin said he did not know the exact retail price of semolina but thought it was about 5d. lb.

Answering Mr. Speakman, the witness said oatmeal was used for making porridge and he should think it was impossible to make porridge from semolina.

Mr. Allfree explained that the packet was sold purely by a mistake which arose from the fact that the manager had ordered 1½ cwts. of fine oatmeal and in due course received a sack invoiced as fine oatmeal. There was nothing on the sack to indicate what was inside it but he had never ordered semolina in that quantity as there was not the same demand for it. Inquiries at headquarters revealed that a new hand was responsible for the despatch of the sack, the staff having been reduced by the exigencies of the war.

The bench came to the conclusion that a technical offence had been committed but that there was no intention to defraud.

"France is just as much with us as in the last war. I am sure she is willing to come to our side, and will endeavour to retrace her steps so that in the near future we shall find she is still one of our allies."—The Earl of Derby.

DEATH OF REV. S. LEVENE

TOWNLEY CASTLE SCHOOL MEMORIES

The death has occurred at Aylesbury of the Rev. Samuel Levene, of Eton-avenue, Hampstead, who will be remembered in Ramsgate as principal of Townley Castle School, Chatham-street.

During the last war the school was heavily bombed by the Germans while being used as a hospital for Canadian wounded soldiers and Mr. Levene had since severed his connection with the town.

Many old boys of the school gained distinction in the last war and one of them, L/Corpl. L. Keysor, of the Australian Imperial Forces, was awarded the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty at Gallipoli.

The Rt. Hon. Leslie Hore-Belisha, M.P., a former Secretary of State for War, was also at one time a pupil at Townley Castle School.

The funeral of Mr. Levene took place at Willesden on Monday.

BROADSTAIRS

Miss E. Lucas.—Miss Emily Lucas, who for many years lived at The Banks Cottage, Lindenthorpe-road, Broadstairs, has passed away at Bude, Cornwall.

Broadstairs Savings.—National Savings in Broadstairs last week amounted to £496, consisting of £240 in Savings Certificates, £5 in Defence Bonds and an increase of £251 due to depositors at the Post Office Savings Bank.

A Christmas Suggestion.—"If you know of anyone who will be lonely at Christmas, why not hold out a practical hand of fellowship and ask them to join you for at least part of the day?"—The Rev. R. D. d'E. Meredith makes this suggestion in the Christmas issue of St. Peter's "War-time News Sheet."

Safely Home.—Warrant Supply Officer R. A. Price, R.N., one of the survivors of the Ark Royal, was re-united on Tuesday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert S. Price, at their home in Carlton-avenue, Broadstairs. W/S/O Price, who began his career in the Royal Navy in 1919, had been on the Ark Royal for three years.

News of Absent Parishioners.—Although many of the parishioners of Holy Trinity, Broadstairs, have temporarily left the district, the Rector, the Rev. C. H. Bailey, keeps in touch with the majority of them by correspondence and the Christmas issue of Broadstairs "Church Magazine" again contains a mine of information regarding the activities of parishioners who are engaged in different spheres of war work at home and abroad. Among other interesting items of news the Rector records that while Major G. L. Newkey-Burden is running a dental laboratory in the desert, his wife is serving as an officer in the W.A.A.Fs.

Tribute to Teacher.—Tribute to his long and valuable association with education in Kent is paid by the "Kent Education Gazette," official organ of the Kent Education Committee, in recording the recent death of Mr. G. A. Taylor, head teacher at St. Peter's Boys' School from 1896 to 1935. "He was a member of the Advisory Committee of Teachers for a number of years," states the "Gazette," "and he will long be remembered by those with whom he made contact. Mr. Taylor was well known for his work on behalf of Kent teachers. Among the offices held by him were those of President of the Thanet Association and President of the Kent County Association of Teachers."

MINSTER.

Wedding of Mr. A. G. Dyer.—Mr. Arthur George Dyer, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. H. G. Dyer, of Farningham House, High-street, Minster, was married at St. John's Church, Margate, on Wednesday, to Miss Ellen Annie Chrisfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. W. Chrisfield, of 10 Glebe-road, Garlinge. The Rev. A. Mapson officiated and Mr. H. G. Dyer, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a powder-blue costume and carried a bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums. After a reception at the home of the bride Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Dyer left to take up residence at 32 Birds-avenue, Garlinge.

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PROFICIENT CADETS

MARGATE A.T.C. AWARDS

Eighteen cadets of the Margate Flights of the A.T.C. have passed their proficiency examination.

Cadets proficient in drill, physical training, morse, mathematics and navigation who have gained certificates and badges as pilots are Sergt. Cadet R. A. G. Simmons, Flt.-Sergt. Cadets D. E. Ward and W. C. Bradgate, Corpl. Cadet H. W. Parkinson, and Cadets G. H. Coleman, F. E. Wotton, E. F. Austen, K. Mellor, F. R. Maltby, D. R. Croucher, A. A. Hermitage, C. E. G. Twyman and F. W. Hudson.

Similar awards for proficiency at a trade have been gained as wireless operators by Cadets R. T. Jackson, R. F. Dobson and R. Drake, and as flight mechanics by Cadets K. Grant and P. N. Payn.

A challenge shield presented by the Margate Welfare Committee for award annually to the most proficient cadet was handed by the Mayor, Alderman G. P. Hoare to Sergt. Cadet R. A. G. Simmons

HEADMASTER'S SEARCH FOR A HOME

An experience which seems to have been all too often the lot of those who have had to seek accommodation in reception areas was described by the Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, headmaster of Chatham House Boys' School, at the recent speech day at Stafford.

"I know from my own personal experience," he said, "how difficult it is to secure billets, for when I first came here I did not feel I could bother the authorities to find me a billet when they were so busy putting hundreds of evacuees into homes. I therefore decided to go and find a billet for myself. I chose what seemed to me to be one of the nicest roads in Stafford, with comfortable houses standing in their own grounds. Putting on my best clothes, my best hat, and my party manners, I started down the aforesaid road. I chose the first house, approached the front door, rang the bell, and asked for a billet. The reply was that much as they would have liked to give me a billet, they were sorry it was impossible. They were sure, however, they knew just the people to take me, namely their next-door neighbour. So off I went, as briskly as ever, still in my best hat and my best party manners, and tried next door. Here again the lady most kindly explained that nothing would have given her greater pleasure than to have given me a billet had circumstances permitted, but unfortunately she could not do so. But she knew just the person to take me—her neighbour next door. So I passed on—not quite so briskly—but still hopeful. . . To cut a long story short, I found before long that rarity of rarities in Stafford, an unfurnished house, and the story ends, as all good stories should end; I lived there happily ever after. I'll give you three guesses as to the name of the road—I thought so; right first time. The whole locality has acquired local fame for the fine way it is helping the war effort by taking in evacuees. It's war motto is 'Passed on to you for your attention, and I hope I am not bothered again.'"

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MARGATE

Overstayed His Leave.—Pte. Herbert Frederick Fox, of The Buffs, who overstayed his leave by three days was remanded at Margate police court on Saturday to await a military escort. Interviewed by P/C Richford at the home of his father, where his wife was staying, at 7.50 a.m. on Saturday, Fox, when told he had been reported as an absentee, replied "Yes. I am ready." In his possession was a pass which had entitled him to be absent from Monday to Wednesday of that week.

Births, Marriages, Deaths

BIRTHS

Valentine.—8th December, at 9 Park-lane, Birchington, the wife of Sergt. Valentine, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

Dyer—Chrisfield.—10th December, at St. John's Church, Margate, by the Rev. A. Mapson, Arthur George Dyer, of Minster, to Ellen Annie Chrisfield, of Garlinge.

DEATHS

Bates, George, of Hillcroft, Goodwin-road, Ramsgate, son of John Bates, of Canterbury, for many years of 5 High-street and Harbour-street, Ramsgate, aged 93 years.

Hodgman.—5th December, at Bridge Institution, Elisabeth Sutton Hodgman, late of Ramsgate, aged 82 years.

Mander.—11th December, at Sterndale, Westgate Bay-avenue, Westgate-on-Sea, Sarah Ann Mander, aged 87 years.

Russell.—8th December, at Rusmid, Ottery St. Mary, Devon, Norah Florence Russell.

RETURN THANKS

Mrs. E. A. Read and sons return sincere thanks for all expressions of sympathy in their recent sudden bereavement, and for the many beautiful floral tributes sent; also to the doctor for his kindness and prompt attention at all times, and to Mrs Hilton and Mrs. Rowland for kindly assistance.

7 St. David's-road, Ramsgate.

Mrs. G. W. Thompson wishes to thank the principals and employees of Messrs. Grummant Bros. and the doctors and nurses at Ramsgate Hospital for the sympathy shown in her sad bereavement; also Mr. Maskell for funeral arrangements.

—Poplar House, Carlton-avenue, Ramsgate.

IN MEMORIAM

Miller.—To the dear memory of Frederick E. Miller, who passed away 18th December, 1940.—From his loving wife, son and daughter.

12 Bellevue-road, Ramsgate.

Printed and Published by the Proprietor, H. C. Flowerdew, at the Advertiser Offices, Broad-street and High-street, Ramsgate